THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Yes, Sir, with effect from 1.1.2000.

(b) Competition between the coal companies, imports and Ministry of Coal representatives on Coal Company Boards are expected to safeguard consumer interests. The situation should improve further in future with the enactment of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2000, which seeks to allow any Indian Company to do coal mining without restrictions of captive consumption.

(c) The State Governments levy 'Sales Tax' on coal. Wherever such sales tax is computed on the price of coal, any increase in price of coal would lead to increased sales tax revenue to the State Government concerned. Similarly, increase in the price of coal leads to increase in the cess levied by the Government of West Bengal.

Development of Buddhists in Laddakh

†3211. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have received any representation from the elected Member of Parliament of Laddakh for the development of Buddhists residing there and for their greater participation in the administration; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Alleged deportation of Canadian National from India

3212. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from some Members of Parliament in June, 2001 regarding alleged deportation of Canadian National from India; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.